

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of this application in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

Claim Status

Claims 21-43 are pending in this application. Claims 21-43 have been rejected. Claim 42 is herein amended. No new matter has been added by this amendment.

Claim Objection

Claim 42 has been objected to because it does not end with a period. Claim 42 has been amended to end with a period.

Reconsideration of the objection to claim 42 is respectfully requested.

Double Patenting

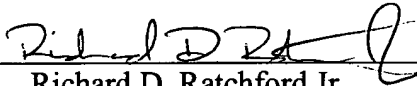
Pending claims 21-43 have been rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-17 of U.S. Patent No. 6,697,719, commonly owned by the assignee of the instant application.

Applicants herewith submit a Terminal Disclaimer under 37 C.F.R. § 1.321(c) to obviate the double patenting rejection. The filing of this Terminal Disclaimer is not intended to be, nor should it be construed as, an admission as to the merits of this rejection. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that this rejection be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

Accordingly, Applicants submit that the claims as herein presented are allowable over the prior art of record, taken alone or in combination, and that the respective rejections be withdrawn. Applicants further submit that the application is hereby placed in condition for allowance which action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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